

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An anti-howling device in a cathode ray tube having a shadow mask and a mask holding frame, comprising:

anti-howling means having a plurality of contact members, wherein each contact member is in contact with the shadow mask for receiving and dispersing a vibration, and connecting members for connecting adjacent contact members; and

fixing means configured to bring the contact members into contact with the shadow mask, such that the contact members receive the vibration of the shadow mask and disperse the vibration by impact and friction between the contact members and the shadow mask.

2. (Previously Presented) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 1, wherein each contact member is spherical with a pass through hole for passing an end of a connecting member.

3. (Previously Presented) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 1, wherein each contact member is cylindrical with a pass through hole for passing an end of a connecting member.

4. (Previously Presented) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 1, wherein each contact member comprises:

- a contact part having a pass through hole at one side; and
- a connecting part formed as a unit with the contact part.

5. (Previously Presented) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 1, wherein each contact member has a ring form.

6. (Previously Presented) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 5, wherein each connecting member has a ring form.

7. (Original) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the anti-howling means is fitted to a non-effective area of the shadow mask.

8. (Previously Presented) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fixing means is fitted to opposite ends of the anti-howling means.

9. (Original) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fixing means is fitted to a non-effective area of the shadow mask.

10. (Original) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fixing means is fitted to a mask holding frame.

11. (Original) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fixing means includes;

holding parts for holding opposite ends of the anti-howling means, and

fitting parts each extended from the holding part for fitting to the shadow mask, wherein the contact members are brought into contact with the shadow mask by using an elastic tension of the holding parts.

12. (Original) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 11, wherein a length between the holding parts is formed shorter than an effective length of the anti-howling means

for applying tension to the anti-howling means when the anti-howling means is held by the holding parts.

13. (Previously Presented) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 11, wherein each holding part comprises an indent fit to a profile of one of the contact members in the anti-howling means.

14. (Previously Presented) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the fitting part comprises a contact hole in conformity with a lower part of one of the contact members in the anti-howling means for bringing one of the contact members into contact with the shadow mask through the contact hole.

15. (Original) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the fitting part includes a recess projected in a direction of the shadow mask.

16. (Original) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the fixing means further includes a connecting part for connecting the holding parts.

17. (Original) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the connecting part has a length shorter than an effective length of the anti-howling means for applying tension to the anti-howling means when the anti-howling means is held by the holding parts.

18. (Previously Presented) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the connecting part comprises assembly holes each having a size almost the same with one of the contact members and slots each connected to one of the assembly holes having a size almost the same with a diameter of one of the connecting members in the anti-howling means, and each holding part comprises a slot connected to one of the slots in the connecting part.

19. (Previously Presented) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the connecting part comprises a cutout at an approximate center of an edge of the connecting part.

20. (Currently Amended) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fixing means comprises[[:]]:

a guiding part for bringing the contact members in the anti-howling means into contact with the shadow mask,

a holding part for holding the connecting members in the anti-howling means, and

a fitting part fitted to the shadow mask and connected to the holding part and the guiding part.

21. (Previously Presented) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 20, wherein the fitting part is fixed to a mask holding frame.

22. (Original) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 20, wherein the fitting part is fixed to the non-effective area of the shadow mask.

23. (Original) An anti-howling device as claimed in claim 20, wherein the fitting part includes a recess projected in a direction of the shadow mask.

24. (Previously Presented) The anti-howling device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the connecting members have a form that is substantially identical to the contact members.

25. (Previously Presented) The anti-howling device as claimed in claim 1, wherein each contact member is hexahedral.

26. (Previously Presented) The anti-howling device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the contact members include a hollow aperture.

27. (Previously Presented) The anti-howling device as claimed in claim 26, wherein at least one of the contact members has a supplementary contact member located in the hollow aperture.

28. (Previously Presented) The anti-howling device as claimed in claim 1, wherein a shape of each contact member is one of spherical, cylindrical, hexahedral, and a ring.

29. (Currently Amended) A vibration damper for use in a cathode ray tube having a shadow mask, comprising:

a plurality of contact members in contact with a shadow mask and adapted to receive and disperse a vibration; ~~and~~

a plurality of connecting members, each connecting member disposed between adjacent contact members and adapted to connect the adjacent contact members; and

a holding member connected to at least one of the plurality of contact members and adapted to hold the plurality of contact members in contact with the shadow mask.

30. (Currently Amended) ~~The vibration damper of claim 29~~ A vibration damper for use in a cathode ray tube having a shadow mask, comprising:

a plurality of contact members in contact with a shadow mask and adapted to receive and disperse a vibration, wherein a shape of each of the plurality of contact members is one of spherical, cylindrical, hexahedral, and ring; and

a plurality of connecting members, each connecting member disposed between adjacent contact members and adapted to connect the adjacent contact members.

31. (Currently Amended) ~~The vibration damper of claim 29~~ A vibration damper for use in a cathode ray tube having a shadow mask, comprising:

a plurality of contact members in contact with a shadow mask and adapted to receive and disperse a vibration, wherein at least one of the plurality of contact members is hollow; and

a plurality of connecting members, each connecting member disposed between adjacent contact members and adapted to connect the adjacent contact members.

32. (Previously Presented) The vibration damper of claim 31, wherein at least one of the plurality of contact members has a supplementary contact member located within a hollow portion of the at least one contact member.

Serial No. 09/978,549
Amendment dated May 25, 2004
Office Action dated April 8, 2004

Docket No. K-0333

33-34. (Cancelled)